

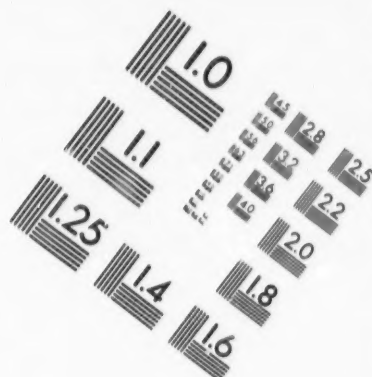
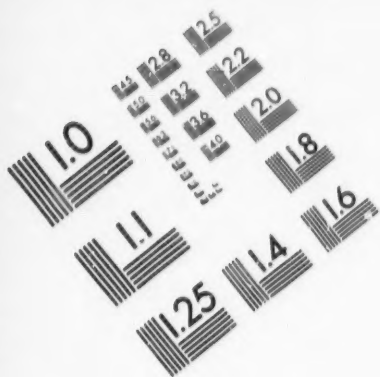
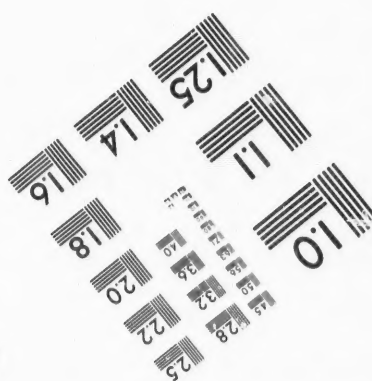
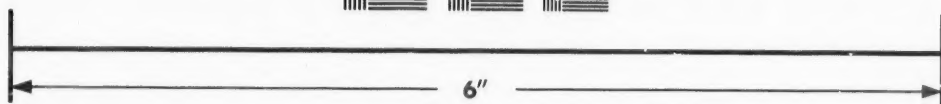
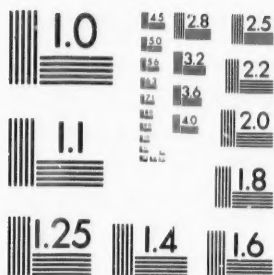


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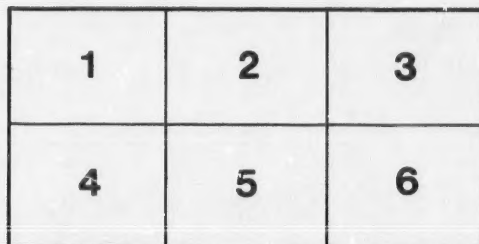
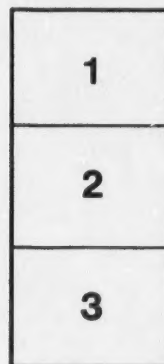
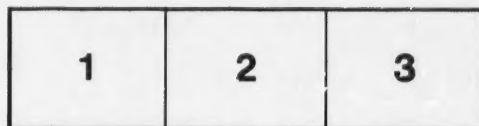
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Memorial

TO HIS HONOR THE LIEUT. GOVERNOR, THE HONORABLE
THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, AND THE HONORABLE
THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY
CONVENED, THE MEMORIAL OF THE GOVERNORS OF
DALHOUSIE COLLEGE ;—

IN presenting to the notice of the Legislature certain facts concerning Dalhousie College, the work it is doing, and the claims that it has upon the Legislature for a much larger annual grant than it now receives, the Board of Governors would respectfully ask that the principle on which aid is or may be extended to Colleges in Nova Scotia should be defined clearly and carried out fairly.

It seems to the Board of Governors that if Colleges are to be aided by grants of public money, these grants must be given on one or other of three grounds, which may be styled respectively, the Denominational, the Provincial, or Payment by results. The Governors would respectfully represent that, no matter which of these grounds be taken, Dalhousie College has been and is suffering great injustice.

I. In consequence of a series of facts and events, into the history of which it is unnecessary to enter, the Province has practically adopted the Denominational principle in assisting Colleges. The sum of \$1400 is received annually by the Church of England for King's College, Windsor, and equal sums are received by the Baptists and Methodists, respectively, for their institutions in Wolfville and in Sackville New Brunswick; while \$2800 are received by the Roman Catholics for their institutions in Antigonish and Halifax. According to this principle, how much should Dalhousie College receive? Different Denominations have by the voice of their Supreme Courts, adopted it as the institution to which they send their youths for higher education, while other Denominations use it and it alone for the same purpose. It will not be denied that these Denominations have rights similar to those

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of the four others specified above. Indeed their claim is much stronger, just because they have received little or nothing in the past, whereas the others have received in all immense sums of public money. But virtually the claim of the Denominations that support Dalhousie College has already been allowed by the Legislature. When the old Free Church of Nova Scotia applied for an annual grant of \$1000, the sum then given for Collegiate purposes to each Denomination that asked for it, the money was voted at once. Another Denomination having about the same number of adherents as the Free Church—namely, the body in connection with the Church of Scotland—never applied for a grant, because it considered the principle of subsidising from half a dozen to a dozen Colleges with paltry grants to be vicious in the extreme. Not having received anything from the Province, its claim is surely now stronger than that of the Church of England which has received grants for a century. The claim of the Church of Scotland was indeed always admitted. Leaders on both sides of the House declared that it had only to ask in order to receive. A much larger Denomination than either the Free Church or the Church of Scotland,—namely, the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia,—never asked for a grant, because it condemned the principle of Provincial aid to Colleges in which Theology was part of the regular course. It too had only to ask in order to receive. It established a Seminary at the West River, Pictou, and afterwards a larger one in Truro, but it neither asked nor received one dollar from the Province for either.

The claims of these three Denominations to \$1400 a year each for collegiate purposes is then unassailable, while the Legislature acts on the Denominational principle. These Denominations now ask that what they are entitled to should be given to Dalhousie College, and in so doing they ask only for Denominational justice, and for what has already been acknowledged to be just. The Free Church was allowed to take its \$1000 grant with it when, giving up its own institution, it allied itself with Dalhousie College. The Church of Scotland can now apply for the amount it is entitled to, because by a happy union of resources a College has been established that it declares worthy of its confidence and of its pecuniary contributions to Collegiate Education. The old Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia can also apply for what it is entitled

to, because in Dalhousie College no Theology is taught. The claim of these Denominations cannot be denied. They have proved the sincerity of their principles by their public action. To have a College worthy of the name and on the support of which all Denominations could unite, they abandoned their own institutions, they raised large sums of money for the endowment of chairs in Dalhousie, and they are besides at the expense of maintaining their own separate Theological Hall or of raising funds to send their Theological Students elsewhere.

These Denominations can ask for what they are entitled to, not only on Denominational grounds, but also on the ground of public policy. The Legislature would, of course, prefer that all Denominations should unite on one College that would be worthy of the Province, and whose Degrees would command respect abroad. But if so, encouragement should be given to every step that is taken towards a consummation so devoutly to be wished. At present, however, the attitude of the Legislature is that of positive discouragement to any such steps being taken. Practically it says, no matter how many small colleges you choose to establish, we shall give \$1400 a year to each; but attempt to combine your resources and we shall give you nothing. The unwisdom as well as injustice of this every one will admit.

But besides these three Denominations, there are various others that virtually have adopted Dalhousie, and their claims must be admitted by the Legislature. The Reformed Presbyterians, the Lutherans, the Independents, the Universalists, all send students to Dalhousie, and these are good subjects and taxpayers equally with the others, and have a right to a fair share of what the Province can give for Collegiate Education.

It may be said that several of these Denominations are Presbyterians and should therefore be classed as one. It would be just as reasonable to say that Episcopalians Baptists and Methodists are Protestants, and should therefore be classed as one. Or, it may be said that two of the Denominations have actually united into one ecclesiastical organization, and that the united body is now proposing to unite with the Church of Scotland. But we may assume that it is not the intention of the Legislature to offer premiums on schism. If the Episcopalians and the Methodists were to unite, does

any one suppose that the Legislature would mulct the united body of \$1400 per annum of the amount now received by the two?

Again it may be said that the seven Denominations referred to as using Dalhousie College have the advantage of the building and its revenues. Several answers can be given to this, any one of which is sufficient. Those Denominations have now a claim on the Province for not having received anything during the century or the decades during which the other Denominations received grants. But the most pertinent answer for the Board to give is that Dalhousie College is not injured but assisted by the co-operation of those Denominations. The College has not been handed over to them. It still remains what it always was, a free public unsectarian institution, its Board of Governors appointed by the Government of the Province; and the Board believes that the Legislature has no intention of inflicting pains and penalties on the Denominations that directly or indirectly co-operate with it for the purpose of securing a larger staff of Professors or a larger number of students. The Board made various independent attempts in the past to set the College in operation, but so inadequate were the revenues of the College that little success attended these attempts; and in consequence the College had actually to be closed and remain closed until the co-operation referred to was secured. Not having been blamed for failure, the Board does not anticipate blame for success, or punishment for those who have materially contributed to the success.

It has also been said that the Province assisted in building Dalhousie College. But what has that to do with the case, either with the present just claims of any Denomination, or with the present right of Dalhousie to public support, when it is doing good public work? The Province has likewise given special grants to the building or establishing of more than one Denominational College. But those grants are never quoted as affecting the present claims of Episcopalians or Baptists, even although those Denominations are now vested with the absolute ownership of their Collegiate buildings, whereas no Denomination owns Dalhousie College. Dalhousie is held by the Board in trust for the whole Province.

II. It may be that the Legislature is now prepared to adopt a Collegiate policy similar to that which Ontario and New Brunswick have recently adopted, and to crown the edifice of unsectarian Common Schools and Academies with an unsectarian College and University. Such a policy, the Board would hail with satisfaction, believing that no Denomination in the Province is strong enough to fully equip a University, and that the proper equipment of a Theological Hall would task the resources of the strongest; and believing also that the flower of our youth should meet and study together all subjects purely literary, philosophic, and scientific. The loss, to the Province because of the want of such a great common centre is incalculable. It is however for the Legislature to say whether this policy is practicable or not. Ontario found that it was, and, discontinuing the grants to the Denominational Colleges, centred all its resources on University College, Toronto, which institution is in consequence a pride and a boast to the whole Dominion. New Brunswick has carried out the same policy, having withdrawn the grant even from Sackville, supported by Nova Scotia, and giving nearly \$9000 a year to the University in Fredericton in addition to the endowment it receives from lands. The revenues of Dalhousie College were given to Nova Scotia as a free gift by the British Government, and yet all that has hitherto been spared by the Province to keep it in operation is \$1000 a year, and even that \$1000 was not given to the College directly, but was brought to it by the Free Church.

Believing that concentration of Collegiate effort would be a boon to the whole Province, the Board last year invited the governing bodies of the Denominational Colleges to a conference, where the question might be discussed. They declined, and thus the overtures of the Board fell to the ground. The question of the feasibility of establishing a properly endowed Provincial College is a question therefore that can now be properly considered only by the Legislature.

Whenever the Legislature considers itself in a position to found a Provincial University upon a broad basis, and with a distinctive name, a University into which the resources of Dalhousie might be merged, the Board of Governors will readily consent to such a policy, because convinced that it would subserve the highest educational interests of Nova Scotia.

III. On the principle of assisting Colleges according to the Denominational strength they represent, we have shewn that Dalhousie College is treated with injustice. If the ground be taken that the Province needs only one College, it is clear that the Province should support that College; and when some of the Common Schools in Halifax cost from five to seven thousand dollars annually in salaries alone, it may be estimated how far one thousand dollars go in keeping up a College. In the opinion of the Board, the time has come for the Legislature to take its stand on one principle or the other: on the Denominational or the Provincial, and to carry out the principle fully and fairly. At present Dalhousie suffers injustice because neither the one nor the other is avowed. Dalhousie is a Provincial institution, and yet receives less public money than if it were Denominational. Not belonging to any Denomination, the Board has no special constituency to appeal to for voluntary subscriptions; and at the same time the Legislature, to which the College belongs, has looked upon it as having no special claims to support. The Board feels that this anomalous state of matters should not continue longer, and that it is the duty of the Legislature to interpose with decided and consistent action on the subject. It has felt thus for a long time, but delayed making any appeal to the Legislature, till such could be made not merely on theoretical but also on practical grounds.

By the Act of 1863, a new Constitution was given to Dalhousie that enabled the Board to open its doors with good prospects of success. The success of the College from that day to this has been very striking. Every year has shown an increase of numbers on the preceding year, and the experiment has lasted long enough for the Board to be warranted in calling the attention of the Legislature to the facts. There are this Session in attendance 88 Students in Arts and 33 in Medicine, or 121 in all; a larger number than all the Students enrolled in all the other Colleges in Nova Scotia, if their Divinity Students be excepted. Of course, if their Divinity Students be counted, so should the Divinity Students of those Denominations that avail themselves of Dalhousie; and in that case our number would be at least 160. The Governors fail to see the justice of the Legislature giving \$1400 to a College over which it has no control, and which has very few students—half of them theological—in actual attendance;

and of giving \$1000 to its own College, which can point to every room crowded with students. It is only right to add that though the question of what Church they belong to, is never put to students by the College Authorities, it is well known that all Denominations are represented, as they are also among the Professors and on the Board of Governors.

If then the assistance given by the Legislature is to be determined by results, the Board confidently asks for an increased annual grant. A special reason for this appeal exists in the fact that it is impossible to carry on the College efficiently on the present revenue. The salaries that were offered to Professors twelve years ago are inadequate now. Knowing this, one of the Denominations that endows two Chairs in the College, last year raised the salaries of the gentlemen filling them from \$1200 to \$1500, an amount certainly not too large for Professors in a University. As our teaching staff is seven in number, there is now an inequality between those two and the others who have received no advance, which the Board ought to redress as soon as possible. Besides, a Provincial College requires apparatus, chemicals, museum, additions to its library, and many other things that the Board at present is utterly unable to supply.

The Governors entertain none but the friendliest feelings towards all kindred institutions in the Province. They have no intention of dictating the principle on which the Legislature should proceed in assisting any or all of them. But they believe that they have shown conclusively that whether that principle be the Denominational, the Provincial, or that of Payment by results, Dalhousie College is treated with neglect and injustice; and they appeal to the Legislature with the utmost confidence that it will rectify the injustice by increasing the grant now given to an amount sufficient to enable the Governors to carry on the Institution with efficiency.

W. YOUNG.
CHARLES TUPPER.
J. W. RITCHIE.
S. L. SHANNON.
G. W. HILL,

G. M. GRANT.
J. F. AVERY.
C. ROBSON.
ALEXANDER FORREST.

